COVERUPS!

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IS ABC TAKEOVER CIA VENGEANCE?

by Jim Marrs

Last November, William J. Casey, President Reagan's controversial CIA director, asked the Federal Communications Commission to punish ABC News for allegedly violating the broadcast fairness doctrine in investigative reports about the spy agency.

ABC News President Roone Arledge charged "The CIA's complaint constitutes unprecedented effort by a government agency to involve the power of government to suppress vigorous reporting about its activities. It raises serious and disturbing First Amendment questions."

However, Casey struck out.

The FCC staff was so unimpressed with Casey's complaints that it never even asked the network to respond to the allegations.

But Casey, himself the object of allegations ranging from conflicts of interest to organized crime connections, has not shown a tendency to forgive and forget.

It is against this background that one must view the recently announced takeover of ABC by Capital Cities Communications Inc., parent company of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Kansas City Star, Women's Wear Daily and numerous other publications, radio, and television stations.

Cap Cities, the nation's largest privately-held media holding corporation, and CIA director Casey are practically one and the same.

A co-founder of Cap Cities, according to the Associated Press, Casey remained on the firm's board of directors at least until he was named to head the CIA early in 1981.

After questions arose about his stocks in 1983, Casey had much of his portfolio placed into a blind trust. However, CIA spokeswoman Patti Volz said Casey's Cap Cities stock was withheld from the trust because Government Ethics Office regulations prohibit a holding that is greater than 20 percent of the entire portfolio.

Casey owns, according to filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, nearly 35,000 shares of Cap Cities stock worth about $7.5 million.

While his holdings amount to only ¼ of 1 percent of Cap Cities, the same SEC papers show that no stockholder owns more than 5 percent, thus making Casey one of the largest single owners of controlling stock. Other filings indicate his wife owns an additional $250,000 worth of Cap Cities stock.

Casey's connection with Cap Cities seems to have taken the news media and financial community by surprise. But the crusty, 70-year-old Casey is no stranger to controversy.

—In 1981, shortly after Casey was appointed CIA director by Reagan, he came under fire for closing the agency's office of public affairs, thus reducing the

CIA's contact with the news media and the public. Casey justified his action by saying "the difficulties of the past decade are behind us," referring to a series of hearings in the mid-1970's documenting CIA abuses, "dirty tricks," associations with Organized Crime and even assassination plots.

—However, later that year, Casey himself was the object of inquiries into past business dealings. For instance, as a member of the New York law firm of Rogers and Wells, Casey's clients ranged from New York City and Nassau County to singer Connie Francis and the governments of Indonesia and South Korea, although neither the firm nor Casey registered as a foreign agent for Korea. Casey conveniently forgot to give this list of some 117 companies, foreign nations and governments to the Senate Intelligence Committee when it investigated his background during confirmation hearings.

—At that same time, some of Casey's business dealings were made public by law suits concerning his role as a director of Multiponics Inc., a failed New Orleans farming venture. A co-founder of Multiponics, Carl Biehl, reportedly agreed to provide federal investigators with information on organized crime activities in the New Orleans area. In May 1981, a federal

judge ruled that Casey and other Multiponics directors had knowingly misled potential investors of the firm by failing to inform them that 68 percent of the money being raised was to repay loans to Multiponics officers and directors. Casey maintained he was guilty of no wrongdoing and that the charges were simply the kind of difficulties any active businessman can expect. His critics portrayed him publicly as a "wheelerdealer" with questionable business ethics.

—After failing to get the White House or the Justice Department to release information on Casey's past financial dealings and in light of Reagan's staunch public support of Casey, who was the President's 1980 campaign manager, the Senate committee allowed the issue to drop and calls for Casey's resignation became muted.

—In 1982 his business dealings were again in the news. It seems Casey unloaded more than $600,000 in oil stocks just before the bottom fell out of the market. The CIA had been reporting that the Soviet Union would begin to run out of oil in the mid-1980's, thus adding to worldwide shortages and boosting prices. But by late 1981 the CIA changed its mind, reporting a likely glut of oil and depressed prices. Casey sold his stock just in time. Interestingly, such instances of possible conflict of interest were referred to two of Casey's subordinates—CIA Deputy Director John McMahon and CIA General Counsel Stanley Sporkin—for investigation. No charges were filed. Ironically, Sporkin was a former chief of enforcement for the Securities and Exchange Commission, which Casey headed under President Richard Nixon.

—In 1983, Casey's name surfaced in the Debategate scandal. Reagan White House Chief of Staff James A. Baker III stated that purloined National Security Council reports from the Jimmy Carter administration used to rehearse Reagan for the debates came from Casey. The stolen Carter security papers prompted Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter's National Security Council chief, to say "This is no longer just fun and games. This gets to the nature of what is integrity in public service."

Considering the unflattering publicity given Casey by the news media and Congress, it may explain his touchiness to stories aired by ABC News last fall.

On September 19 and 20, ABC's World News Tonight told how the CIA plotted to kill Honolulu investment counselor Ronald Rewald, after Rewald revealed CIA involvement in his company. Rewald faces fraud, perjury and tax evasion charges in the bankruptcy of his firm.

A Hawaiian jailer, Scott Barnes, told ABC News he was asked by the CIA to kill Rewald while in custody.

Following these stories, Casey personally called ABC Board Chairman Leonard Goldenson and complained. That led to meetings between ABC News executives and CIA officials.

ABC News decided two months later it could not back up the story of the plan to murder Rewald because Barnes had refused to take a lie detector test. An admission that the murder plot could not be substantiated was aired, but ABC stood by other charges in the original stories (later it was learned that Barnes had agreed to the test and would tell his story to government investigators).

However, this was not enough for Casey, who filed a formal complaint in mid-November with the FCC charging ABC with violating the fairness doctrine.

The FCC called the CIA complaint "deficient in several respects" and said the commission "is not the national arbiter of the truth of news programming."

At the same time, columnist Jack Anderson charged that the CIA tried to intimidate him into revealing his sources for a story that quoted Rewald as saying he was asked to participate in a CIA drug-smuggling operation.

It was also about this time, according to the New York Times, that Cap Cities Board Chairman Thomas S. Murphy called Goldenson and asked him to consider selling ABC. In December, after the FCC had rebuked Casey's attempt to punish ABC, Murphy again approached Goldenson and the merger began.

Oddly, despite details of the Goldenson-Murphy dialog printed in Times news service reports, an official of Cap Cities told a Star-Telegram reporter on March 19 that ABC had initiated the merger talks.

The significance of the Murphy-Casey relationship takes on broader meaning when viewed in the context of Murphy's family ties.

According to investigative reporter Jim Hougan, author of "Spooks - The Haunting of America—the Private Use of Secret Agents," Murphy, his brother and his in-laws, the Crosbys, all controlled the Mary Carter Paint Company. After charges of underworld and intelligence connections, Mary Carter was given a name change to Resorts International.

Today, Resorts owns gambling casinos in the Bahamas and in Atlantic City, as well as the world's largest private intelligence firm, Intertel. And the charges of crime connections have continued.

In early March of this year, the New Jersey Gaming Commission voted to renew Resorts' gambling permit despite a recommendation against such a move by its own investigators, who reported links between Resorts officials and members of Organized Crime.

President of Resorts is James Crosby, father of Thomas S. Murphy's wife Suzanne. Murphy's brother, funeral home director Henry Murphy, married another Crosby daughter, according to Hougan, and is secretary of Resorts International. James Crosby's brothers, the Murphy's in-laws, John F. Crosby and William M. Crosby, also sit as directors and officers of Resorts.

Another stockholder in Mary Carter Paint, according to Hougan, was world explorer and newsman Lowell Thomas. Thomas also was a founder of Cap Cities who, along with business manager Frank Smith, hired Thomas Murphy in 1954.

In 1977, when Thomas remarried, the Star-Telegram reported that the couple was given an expense-paid trip to Tibet by the CIA.

Gamblers, gangsters, spies, spooks, shady business deals, political power plays—all these elements swirl around Casey like smoke from a bonfire.

It is hardly reassuring that Casey sits center stage at a time when the media is reporting the merger of Cap Cities and ABC as "the biggest deal in U.S. corporate history outside the oil industry."

(There has been yet another attempt by Casey and the CIA to punish ABC. According to an editorial to appear April 1 in Broadcasting magazine, "Rejected in its first attempt at FCC reprisal, the CIA filed a petition for reconsideration clearly signalling an intention to get the network one way or another. Could so unbending and determined an assault be the work of Casey's underlings?" Good question. Perhaps Mr. Casey should answer it under oath. The editors add that the FCC is expected to reject the petition.)

THIS IS THE ABCIA TELEVISION NETWORK?

by Gary Mack

Did CIA Director William Casey initiate, directly or indirectly, the Cap Cities acquisition of ABC? Why have so few journalists been skeptical at what, on the surface, looks like a blatant move to control a major chunk of the news media? And what is this story doing in a newsletter concerned mostly with who killed John F. Kennedy?

I wish I could answer these questions.

Jim Marrs' article was written for the Fort Worth News-Tribune, a small but influential weekly concerned with the city's business community. It is also the only print competition for the Cap Cities' daily, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

But after exhibiting great enthusiasm, the News-Tribune got cold feet. Even though Marrs worked for the Star-Telegram more than ten years and has excellent journalist credentials, the story remains unpublished.

I'm told that at least two reports appeared on the MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour on PBS, but no one mentioned the tie-in with Resorts International or its control of Intertel. One of the media analysts reportedly said the Cap Cities-ABC merger "...is the end of broadcasting as we know it."

Newsday, a scrappy Long Island, New York weekly, also got part of the Casey-Cap Cities story, but missed the Resorts/Intertel connections.

For the record, Resorts has never been conclusively linked with organized crime, nor have any of its directors or key personnel. But in December 1978, John Degnan, the New Jersey Attorney General, recommended against a gambling license for Resorts, and charged the firm's gambling operations in the Bahamas had been linked to organized crime in the mid 1960s. The New Jersey Casino Control Commission then held seven weeks of hearings and found "absolutely no evidence of organized crime involvement" in the company.

New Jersey Monthly apparently did an in-depth study of Resorts and described the casino gambling concerns as "mob-tainted." Resorts sued and went to the Supreme Court, which, on October 12, 1982, upheld New Jersey's shield laws protecting journalists' sources, notes and editorial procedures.

More information on Resorts is in a Random House book by Gigi Mahon called "The Company That Bought The Boardwalk" (1980).

If this really is a CIA takeover, ABC News will be drastically changed. Of the three major networks, ABC has done the most to expose CIA and FBI "dirty tricks" and disgraceful deeds. ABC has also treated the JFK conspiracy and coverup seriously, beginning especially in 1975.

It is a true story that several ABC people put their jobs on the line to broadcast the first public showing of the Zapruder film. Two of those were reporter Geraldo Rivera and producer Peter Lance. It was Lance who put together the excellent 20th anniversary overview of the Kennedy assassination that was nearly sandbagged by Ted Koppel's leering disinterest on Nightline.

I'm told that more than a few ABC News staffers are furious with the sellout to Cap Cities. What's more, they are all well aware of Casey's attempt to punish the network, but the reality is they cannot now get an expose story on the air.

Perhaps someone is digging into the Casey-Cap Cities story. If so, here's some more information from legitimate news sources.

On the day of the acquisition announcement, March 18, 1985, FWST reporter Jim Fuquay wrote that even though it's traditional for broadcast mergers to be scrutinized, the "Justice Department said...it was not examining the transaction." Fuquay also said an analyst thought the acquisition was "out of character for Cap Cities, which has indicated it prefers smaller properties." ABC is four times the size, financially, of Cap Cities.

The next day, Fuquay wrote that the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department were trying to decide which one of the agencies would review the merger for anti-trust violations.

Then on March 26, Ted Turner's Cable News Network reported the Securities and Exchange Commission and Pacific Stock Exchange have begun investigations into possible insider trading of both Cap Cities and ABC stocks. CNN quoted unidentified sources who said there was heavy ABC stock trading the week before the March 18 announcement.

The deal is being financed in a rather unique way. A "longtime acquaintance" of Murphy, Warren E. Buffett, is buying 3 million new shares of Cap Cities stock, worth $517.5 million, as a down payment. He is one of America's richest men, worth about $665 million, and his ownership as a Cap Cities director will be about 18 percent. Buffett owns Berkshire Hathaway, the shirt and clothing company, and is the single largest shareholder in the Washington Post. Berkshire Hathaway also owns 8.5 percent of Affiliated Publications, parent company of the Boston Globe, and 4 percent of Time, Inc.

According to FWST writer Dan Piller, on March 20, Buffett "played a key role in bringing together his friend...Murphy and (Leonard) Goldenson of ABC."

Broadcasting magazine, the industry bible, reported on March 25 that financing will come from loans made by a consortium of banks led by Chemical Bank of New York, the nation's sixth largest. If memory serves adequately, Chemical Bank is said to have a long history of "assistance" to the CIA—this may prove to be especially fertile ground for uncovering other links to either organized crime, the intelligence community, or both.

Broadcasting also noted, correctly, that ABC's majority owner, Goldenson, was unsuccessful at finding his successor within the network. Goldenson, 79, has not hidden his plans to retire.

Casey's connection to Cap Cities finally surfaced on March 28. An Associated Press story in the Dallas Times Herald quoted White House spokesman Larry Speakes as having "no problem" with Casey holding Cap Cities stock worth millions of dollars "outside the blind trust set up for his investments." But he declined to say whether Casey should put the stock into the blind trust at this time. "That's not a judgment that I'm required to make. It's one for the Office of Government Ethics," he added.

The AP story also mentioned that "ABC-TV (has) been the object of a CIA complaint to the Federal Communications Commission over ABC's news reporting." A similar AP story, printed the same day in the FWST, deleted mention of the CIA and ABC.

Another AP story on March 28 referred to a statement issued by the CIA late the day before. In it, Casey said he would put his Cap Cities stock into the trust if

his attorney could work out the details. "It is a matter of indifference to Mr. Casey whether that stock is in the (blind) trust or not," according to the statement read by CIA spokesperson Kathy Pherson.

The AP story also mentioned that "David H. Martin, director of the Office of Government Ethics, did not return a reporter's telephone calls."

Interestingly, Martin did talk with Wall Street Journal reporters for an article that also appeared on March 28. He said that his office can grant exceptions to the rule that prevented Casey from placing his stock in trust.

The WSJ article also quoted the CIA statement, but apparently added it's own interpretation. Their version read "It is a matter of independence to Mr. Casey...".

Journal reporters Bruce Ingersoll and Bill Abrams also reported on Casey's Cap Cities stock: "A CIA spokeswoman wouldn't confirm published reports that...(Casey) owns 34,755 shares of Cap Cities stock."

"We see no conflict-of-interest problem," said the spokeswoman, Patti Volz. "The amount of stock doesn't represent a significant amount. He doesn't have a controlling influence or power over Cap Cities."

But as Jim Marrs pointed out, Casey and his wife do own a significant share of Cap Cities, since no stockholder, according to SEC filings, owns more than 5 percent of the company. The Caseys own about ¼ of 1 percent, according to the latest financial disclosure.

The WSJ article also quoted Cap Cities senior vice president and chief financial officer Ronald J. Doerfler as saying Casey has had no voice in the company since his 1981 resignation from the board of directors. "He's just another stockholder as far as I'm concerned," said Doerfler.

Cap Cities' reputation is unquestionably excellent—both broadcasters and the financial community have long had faith in its people and methods. It would be a shame for Casey, even as a silent partner, to tarnish the ole image. But then, in the world of intelligence, nothing is as it seems. And who is our watch dog now?

DTH 2-7-85

Howard Hunt loses libel suit

Associated Press

MIAMI — A federal jury denied Watergate burglar E. Howard Hunt $1 million in damages Wednesday, deciding he was not libeled in an article by an ex-CIA agent suggesting Hunt was part of a conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

In a trial four years ago, Hunt was awarded $650,000 in damages. That verdict was overturned because of a flawed instruction to the jury.

This time a six-member jury found in favor of Liberty Lobby, a right-wing Washington group that publishes The Spotlight tabloid, where the article appeared in 1978.

One juror, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the panel thought no evidence was presented showing malice toward Hunt by the publication. The judge had instructed the jury before it began deliberating Tuesday that evidence of malice was necessary to find for Hunt.

Hunt displayed little emotion as the verdict was read and declined comment. His lawyer, William Snyder of Baltimore, said the two men would confer about a possible appeal.

Attorney Mark Lane, a longtime critic of the Warren Commission findings and other investigations of the assassination, defended Liberty Lobby.

Lane, author of the 1966 best-seller "Rush to Judgment" said outside court that unidentified journalists "do everything in their power to protect the governmental establishment which has hidden the truth from the American people."

In his closing argument Tuesday, Lane repeated charges he presented during seven days of testimony, including claims of cover-ups and flawed investigation, while telling the jury that Hunt, an ex-CIA agent, and the agency both disliked Kennedy.

The focus of the lawsuit was an article written by former CIA agent Victor Marchetti and published seven years ago. The article contended that a 1966 CIA memo purportedly said Hunt was in Dallas the day Kennedy was slain and suggested he had a role in the assassination.

MIAMI HERALD 2-1-85

Ex-CIA officials testify on Hunt

Two former directors of the CIA testified in depositions, read Thursday in Miami federal court, that they had no knowledge of a purported 1966 CIA memo linking Watergate figure E. Howard Hunt with the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Hunt, a former CIA agent, is suing the Liberty Lobby for publishing a 1978 article suggesting that the CIA was about to provide evidence that Hunt was involved in a plot to kill Kennedy.

Former CIA directors Richard Helms and Stansfield Turner both testified in depositions last year that they had no knowledge of a 1966 internal CIA memo which supposedly stated: "Someday, we will have to explain Howard Hunt's presence in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963."

The article, published by the Liberty Lobby's Spotlight tabloid, had a headline that said "CIA to nail Hunt for Kennedy killing," and said the memo had been given to a House committee investigating the murder. The committee reported later that no such memo was produced and that there was no evidence to show that Hunt was in Dallas or part of a plot.

In another deposition read Thursday, Liberty Lobby president Willis Carto testified that "everything in The Spotlight is true."

PALM BEACH POST 2-1-85

Ex-CIA Chief Denies Hunt Was Discussed

MIAMI (AP) — Retired Rear Adm. Stansfield Turner, former head of the CIA, said he had "no recollection" of discussing E. Howard Hunt during Turner's four years as director of the agency, according to a deposition read yesterday in the retrial of a libel suit Hunt filed.

Turner

Hunt, convicted in the Watergate break-in, sued the right-wing Washington group Liberty Lobby for publishing an article suggesting he played a part in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The article was written by former CIA agent Victor Marchetti. It claims a 1966 CIA memo purportedly said Hunt was in Dallas the day of Kennedy's death and suggested his role.

The article also implied the CIA was connected with the assassination and intended to "sacrifice Hunt."

Hunt, who spent 33 months in prison for the Watergate burglary, was awarded $650,000 when the libel suit was first heard by a jury in 1981. But on appeal, a retrial was ordered because of a flawed jury instruction.

FWST 2-7-85

Hunt loses libel suit in retrial

Knight-Ridder News Service

MIAMI — A federal jury, looking through a fog of conspiracy theories to examine a clear central legal issue, decided Wednesday that Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt wasn't libeled by a tabloid that had linked him to the murder of John F. Kennedy.

The legal issue was malice, which a public figure such as Hunt must prove to win a libel award. And, said at least one of the six jurors, Hunt failed to offer clear and convincing evidence of malice by the ultraconservative Liberty Lobby's *Spotlight* tabloid.

"We dissected the article, and we thought there was no malice," said the juror, who would speak only on the condition that he not be identified. The jury deliberated a total of about three hours.

The case was retried after an appeals court sent back a 1981 verdict in which the jury ruled in favor of Hunt and awarded him $650,000.

Much of the seven-day trial was spent on defense claims that Hunt, then a CIA agent, in fact was in Dallas and was involved in a plot to kill Kennedy. However, the juror later characterized the conspiracy testimony as "so much extraneous matter."

"But it was a good lesson in American history," the juror added.

Associated Press

E. Howard Hunt refused to comment after the verdict.

After the verdict, a visibly disappointed Hunt refused to comment and left the courthouse immediately.

Attorney Mark Lane, the well-known conspiracy theorist who had defended Liberty Lobby, backed off only slightly afterward from his strong closing argument insistence that the 1978 *Spotlight* article was true.

"I don't know," Lane said when asked if he really believed that Hunt had anything to do with Kennedy's death. "But there's no doubt in my mind that the CIA was involved, and Hunt was a CIA agent."

Hunt had sued *Spotlight* in 1980 for printing the article, written by ex-CIA employee Victor Marchetti. The article stated that the CIA was about to "nail" Hunt for involvement in Kennedy's murder.

FWST 3-7-85

NOVEMBER 16, 1983 • USA TODAY

Hidden facts about JFK's assassination continue to surface

Jack ANDERSON

It was more than 21 years ago that John F. Kennedy was gunned down in Dallas, but facts about the assassination keep floating to the surface like flotsam from some long-sunken ship.

Recently, some fascinating fragments have turned up in an unnoticed federal appeals court filing by Harold Weisberg. The indefatigable, 71-year-old former newsman has been trying for years to force a reluctant Justice Department to come clean on the JFK murder.

Long-secret FBI documents pried out by Weisberg and other investigators provide these tantalizing tidbits on the assassination, the alleged killer and the tragedy's aftermath:

● Lee Harvey Oswald, the "loner" generally accepted as Kennedy's single assassin, once told an FBI agent he had been "contacted" by the Soviet secret police — presumably during the period he lived in Russia. But the FBI, incredibly, never asked Oswald what the contact consisted of. Weisberg believes Oswald was lying: The truth may never be known.

● An FBI agent said Oswald at one time was either an "informant or source" for the bureau and knowingly provided information to the FBI in Dallas. What he told the G-men is not known.

● The FBI conducted secret investigations of the distinguished members of the Warren Commission. After the commission's report was submitted, the FBI also compiled dossiers on the commission staff.

● Whenever critics got vocal about the FBI's finding that Oswald acted alone — a conclusion accepted by the Warren Commission — the FBI began "preparation of sex dossiers on (the) critics." The newly released documents make clear that important aspects of the assassination were going uninvestigated while the G-men were snooping in their detractors' bedrooms.

(In the Zapruder film, Greer faces toward the rear twice, not once, and was apparently looking at JFK at the moment of the head shot - just one more piece of evidence from researcher Robert Groden)

FWST 3-16-85

Kennedy author suspects Mob

Liz SMITH

Writes **John Davis** in a brand-new epilogue to his book *The Kennedys*: "Was organized crime able to eliminate the **Kennedy brothers** and get away with it? If the Justice Department and the American people choose not to face this question, the cause of justice and personal liberty in America will receive a severe setback."

I have on my desk the very first paperback edition of this massive work of research and interviewing, subtitled *Dynasty and Disaster 1848-1984*. The original hardcover, released last year, cost $24.95, so a lot of people couldn't afford to buy it. But around April 1, you'll be able to get the paperback for only $5.95 — and a mighty bargain that is, with the author's update included.

McGraw-Hill has begun a second printing, because the first, of 200,000 copies, is already pre-sold. No wonder! This is one book that historians will be using for years; it is crammed with colorful details and fresh stories and insights. Considering the unfortunate fact that the John F. Kennedy Library still keeps most of its important sources closed to writers and the public, this book is about as far as any author can go at the present time.

In his epilogue, Davis brings us up to date on the tragedies of drug addiction among a few of the younger Kennedys. But he doesn't write off the dynasty. He says, "To insinuate, as some writers have, that the Kennedys are finished because one of 29 grandchildren died of a drug overdose, and two or three others have taken drugs, is tantamount to saying that the current high incidence of drug use and alcoholism in America . . . means that American society is in an irreversible decline. The Kennedy family and American society are strong enough to withstand much more than what has assailed them so far."

To me, the most fascinating addition to this book is the author's agreement with former chief counsel of the House assassinations committee, **G. Robert Blakey**, who says, "I am now firmly of the opinion that the Mob did it (killed JFK and RFK). It is an historical fact."

Davis asks four momentous questions:

● To what extent were the Kennedys themselves indirectly responsible for the disasters that befell them?

● Was the JFK assassination related in any way to the Kennedy administration's obsession with "getting rid of **Fidel Castro**" (bearing in mind that there were at least eight attempts on Castro's life during the Kennedy administration, including one that was in progress the very day Kennedy was killed)?

● Did organized crime plot and carry out the murder of one or both of the Kennedy brothers?

John F. Kennedy

● If it did, why didn't the United States government's two major investigative agencies, the FBI and the CIA, get to the bottom of the two crimes?

Davis answers many of these questions in his book; I think every American should read it.

(Davis also speculates that an ensuing coverup is protecting CIA/Mob ties that began with attempts to kill Castro. While that is too conservative for most researchers, he has opened some eyes to the conspiracy/coverup that is now in its 22nd year.)

METRO PAST

From **The Dallas Morning News** *files*

March 5, 1975

A film showing the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is scheduled to be televised nationally for the first time shortly after midnight Thursday by the American Broadcasting Co., a network spokeswoman said Tuesday. WFAA-TV, the ABC station in Dallas, confirmed that the film, originally shot by Abraham Zapruder of Dallas, will be shown during the Wide World of Entertainment program starting at midnight Thursday.

March 7, 1975

Many television viewers here saw for the first time Friday morning the gory sight of President John F. Kennedy's head thrown backward as he was blasted with an assassin's bullet in Dallas 11 years ago. The film, shown for the first time nationally by the American Broadcasting Co., was billed by its narrators as proof that at least one shot hit the president from the front.

(WFAA initially decided not to air the program, but word leaked out and public pressure forced a change of plans - the late hour was due to the regular tape delay following a local movie.)

WASHINGTON POST 2-28-85

William R. Greer,

75, a retired Secret Service agent who was driving President John F. Kennedy's car when the president was assassinated in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, died of cancer Feb. 23 at a hospital in Waynesville, N.C.

Mr. Greer, who was the Secret Service driver for Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson, retired on disability in 1966, in part because of a stomach ulcer that grew progressively worse after the Kennedy assassination.

He was a driver for the presidents on trips throughout the United States and in Europe and Central America, and he was assigned to Kennedy in Hyannisport, Mass., the night he was elected president in November 1960.

When the shots were fired in Dallas, Mr. Greer later recalled, he glanced backward over his shoulder and saw blood staining the shirt of Texas Gov. John Connally, who was riding with the president and who was wounded by the gunfire.

After that, Mr. Greer said, "I just looked straight ahead at the car in which the police chief was leading our way to the hospital."

Mr. Greer helped carry Kennedy into Dallas' Parkland Hospital on a stretcher. He accompanied the president's body back to Washington and was one of two Secret Service agents and two FBI agents present at the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Medical Center. He then drove the body to the White House about 3 a.m. the next day.

Mr. Greer was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and came to the United States when he was 18. He served in the Navy during World War II, and in 1944 he was assigned aboard President Franklin D. Roosevelt's yacht, the Potomac.

He transferred to the Secret Service in 1946.

In 1973, Mr. Greer moved to Waynesville, N.C.

His first wife, Ethel, died in 1969. He is survived by his wife, Mary, of Waynesville; a son of his first marriage, Richard, of Olney, Md.; a stepson, Christopher Wolfe of Bowie, and three grandchildren.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Kevin Cody

RFK Assassination Tapes: Scientific Proof of a Second Gunman

In keeping with HUSTLER's long tradition of presenting even the most controversial viewpoints, we provide this space to outspoken opinion makers in politics, religion, the arts and other segments of contemporary society. The author of this month's Guest Editorial is Kevin Cody, editor and publisher of Easy Reader–a dynamic Southern California weekly newspaper.

Oh, my God, Senator Kennedy has been shot and another man, a Kennedy campaign manager, possibly shot in the head. I am right here, and Rafer Johnson has ahold of (*thup*) the man who apparently fired the shot. He has fired the shot. He still has the gun; the gun is pointed at me right at this moment. I hope they can get the gun out of his hand. Be very careful; get the (*thup*) gun; get the gun! (*Thup-thup.*) Stay away from the gun! Stay away from the gun! His hand is frozen! Get his thumb; get his thumb! (*Thup-thup.*) Take ahold of his thumb and break it if you have to! Get his thumb! (*Thup-thup-thup.*) Now, get away from the barrel, get away from the barrel, man. Look out for the gun! Okay, all right, that's it, Rafer! Get it; get the gun, Rafer! (*Thup-thup-thup-thup.*) . . ."

• • •

Every journalist dreams about at least one good chance at the "story of the century." I was sure I had mine when I disclosed the above audio transcript last summer in an article printed in my newspaper, *Easy Reader*. The story focused on a series of recently recovered tape recordings made at the scene when Senator Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated in the kitchen pantry of Los Angeles's Ambassador Hotel on June 5, 1968. The dramatic narrative was delivered by Andrew West–a reporter for the Mutual Radio network–as he stood within several feet of the victim.

Scientific analysis of this tape recording alone has since yielded *positive proof* that Sirhan Sirhan was *not* the only gunman/assassin to fire a weapon during the RFK shooting. Despite steadfast denials by Los Angeles law officers and Sirhan's 1969 conviction as the lone murderer, a conspiracy that is still unsolved was in fact behind the killing of Robert Kennedy. And at least one other assassin/conspirator is walking the streets free while Sirhan rots in the Correctional Training Facility at Soledad, California.

Late in 1982 I watched as an acoustics scientist named Dr. Michael H. L. Hecker conducted a series of sophisticated tests on the West recording at the laboratories of Stanford Research Institute in Menlo Park, California. An expert whose credentials include analyses of Richard Nixon's infamous Watergate tapes, Dr. Hecker next studied the extensive data he extracted from the West recording. Then he swore out a formal declaration attesting that he had *positively identified* "no fewer than ten gunshots" (the *thup* sounds on the West tape)–*two more* than the capacity of Sirhan's *eight-shot* revolver.

Reporter West's description of the assassination didn't begin until *after* Kennedy and union official Paul Schrade (misidentified by West as a "campaign manager") had already been shot and felled. Uncontested forensic data in the case indicates this amounts to at least four more gunshots. Thus, when combined with Dr. Hecker's count of ten subsequent shots, the overall total automatically climbs to 14.

Significantly, Dr. Hecker has suggested the possibility of an even higher total. He believes that three of the 13 *thups* heard overall on the West recording also had scientific characteristics peculiar to gunshots. "For those (other) ten, though," Hecker told me, "I'd pick a bone in court with anyone who argued they weren't gunshots."

In the months following Dr. Hecker's tests, six more assassination tapes of considerably higher quality became available. Curiously enough, these audio and visual recordings were acquired through the uncustomary cooperation of high-level officials at ABC, CBS and NBC, who had been impressed with Hecker's standing in the scientific community and, of course, with his formal declaration.

Careful analysis of these recordings not only confirmed Dr. Hecker's original findings, they expanded the "database" considerably. By late 1983 between *16* and *20* gunshots had been positively identified on these additional recordings.

Preparation of my report on the assassination tapes was encouraged by a group of unusually qualified experts on the subject. Most prominent was Vincent Bugliosi, famed prosecutor of the Charles Manson family and author of the best-selling book about them, *Helter-Skelter*.

(In 1975 Bugliosi, late liberal activist Allard Lowenstein and victim Paul Schrade had spearheaded a challenge of the L.A. police conclusion that a "lone assassin" had been responsible for Kennedy's murder. During special hearings into the matter firearms experts were unable to confirm or validate the "lone assassin" theory. But these same experts did cast serious doubts on the scientific integrity of the original police investigation.

Next was Dr. Robert J. Joling, past president of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, long a leading advocate for independent judicial review of the Kennedy and Martin Luther King assassinations. Rounding out the group were ex-broadcast newsman Jonn G. Christian and former FBI agent William Turner, authors of *The Assassination of Robert F. Kennedy: A Searching Look at the Conspiracy and Coverup–1968-1978* (Random House, 1978).

This critically acclaimed work–evidence from which was presented in an article for HUSTLER's January 1979 issue–was likened by one reviewer to a "formidable grand-jury presentation" in book form. The authors' unprecedented "undercover" counterinvestigation had begun in the immediate aftermath of the RFK killing, in conjunction with the California Chief Deputy Attorney General's office.

This volume presented FBI photos of *five* bullet holes at the assassination scene in excess of the "official" eight-count, with a corroborating statement signed by the agent in charge of the FBI's crime-scene investigation. Another signed statement (and corresponding photos of these extra bullet holes) came from Los Angeles's then-coroner, Dr. Thomas M. Noguchi. In short, the Christian-Turner book contained more than enough evidence to convince even the most skeptical that Sirhan could not possibly have acted alone.

I had written earlier stories about the Christian-Turner evidence in 1978, 1979 and 1983. While public reaction was generally quite positive, no other news sources were interested in picking up where I left off.

But I felt sure that my "assassination tapes" story contained the most persuasive evidence of a coverup yet. I believed that it would trigger an across-the-board followup by all serious news organizations exposed to its revelations–particularly the implications of Dr. Hecker's astounding declaration.

A press kit was assembled, complete with my story, photos and corresponding exhibits from the Christian-Turner book and a cassette recording of the West tape. Some 40 local, regional and national news sources were provided with these kits well in advance of my paper's publication date last June–two days before the 16th anniversary of Robert F. Kennedy's assassination. (Major news sources I contacted included the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, AP, UPI, Reuters, National Public Radio and the ABC, CBS, NBC and Mutual Broadcasting networks.)

Imagine my shock, then, to learn that as of this writing not one word has been published or broadcast about the RFK-murder tapes–not even by the three major networks that had provided the tapes for scientific analysis! Equally astounding, Dr. Hecker has never been contacted about his historical declaration.

The only ray of light in an otherwise blacked-out news tunnel was an attempted pursuit of the story by veteran commentator Bill Stout of CBS's Los Angeles affiliate, KCBS-TV. Encouragingly enough, Stout also noted that a primary source for the CBS story would be the Christian-Turner book . . . itself the object of a shameful coverup.

My *Easy Reader* article had contained details behind the astonishing discovery that Random House had secretly "withdrawn" the Christian-Turner book from the nation's bookstores. According to officials of the Justice Project–a tax-exempt group formed in 1983 to probe the RFK assassination–more than half of 20,000 hardcover copies of the book have been hidden away in Random House vaults and are "not available under any circumstances."

This outrageous news blackout was apparently caused by the publisher's cooperation in the secret settlement of a libel suit brought by a man the authors (and others before them) had linked through documented evidence to organized crime, CIA "dirty tricks" and the assassinations of both Robert Kennedy and his brother, President John F. Kennedy in 1963. Not only did such a settlement violate the contract between the authors and Random House, it may well have set a dangerous "censorship" precedent in the publishing world.

Robert Kennedy's memory is forever invoked by historians, political opportunists and "close friends." Yet to date, nearly all of them have refused to demand that RFK's own belief in decency and justice be applied to learning the truth behind his assassination.

In his 1967 book, *To Seek a Newer World*, Kennedy himself wrote: "Each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope. . . ."

For the sake of our country's future, let's hope this *Guest Editorial* causes much more than a ripple.

Readers who share or disagree with Kevin Cody's opinions are encouraged to address HUSTLER's Feedback section (2029 Century Park East, Suite 3800, Los Angeles, CA 90067-3054). Those who are interested in lending moral or financial support to the unraveling of the RFK mystery should direct correspondence to The Justice Project Inc. (Suite 401, 4676 Admiralty Way, Marina Del Rey, CA 90291).

(This editorial, from the February 1985 issue of Hustler, appeared on newsstands in late December 1984; there still has been no news coverage. Part of the reason may be a preliminary study completed in November 1983, which compared the West tape with three other recordings from NBC, ABC and CBS sources. None of the four were originals and various physical and electronic problems proved insurmountable; while the results were not conclusive, the recordings do include at least some of the shots, and they can be very useful if other evidence about the shooting sequence becomes available. And though the report is not mine to release, I suspect further work is being done. Years ago I was told a KHJ radio newsman also recorded the shooting, but the original had disappeared. Also, the LAPD fired test shots in the pantry and apparently recorded them; those tapes could prove enormously useful in identifying the impulses which may be shots.)

CAPCITIES INK/JUNE 1983

Robert Kennedy's deputy press secretary recalls events of the senator's death from an insider's point of view

AFTER THE FACT

BY BILL GRUVER
WPAT, Clifton, NJ

Any experienced reporter will tell you that events move people rather than the other way around. Events of major import change the course of history. Plans are often foiled by some accident of fate. Out of such events, major news stories are born. I have been fortunate to witness a number of such events but none affected me more than the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy. When you are caught up in a tragic event, and are a journalist, your reporting instincts go to work. My training as a reporter took over my mind and body as I saw the awful events of June 4, 1968 unfold in Los Angeles.

I had been a political editor at CBS News and took a leave of absence to become deputy press secretary to Sen. Kennedy during his 1968 campaign for president.

In the last week of the California primary, we saw Sirhan Sirhan many times in our press room at the Ambassador Hotel. He said he was an admirer of Kennedy and picked up our daily schedule of events. We were used to the presence of unusual characters. They seemed drawn to our campaign. Interestingly enough, the senator had three bodyguards, but none were allowed to carry weapons. Kennedy did not want any weapons in his presence. He was one of the earliest advocates of gun control legislation as a result of his brother's assassination.

We had planned arrangements for what we expected would be the most extensive coverage of the entire campaign. My immediate superior, Pierre Salinger (press secretary to President John F. Kennedy) asked me to arrange good visibility for the public along with the media. We planned for high-level platforms for the TV cameras but allowed enough room so all could see the speakers stand. We rehearsed the evening's coverage and the senator's entrance once the voting results were conclusive.

We were already planning our trip to New York to set up an East Coast campaign operation. We would leave the day after the primary to make final plans for a Kennedy operation at the Chicago convention.

Around 8:30 p.m., the senator arrived at the Ambassador Hotel and went to his fifth floor suite to meet with his advisors. They sat together assessing the returns which clearly indicated a Kennedy victory. By 10 p.m., all three networks projected the senator's victory. Kennedy was given the media coverage plan by Salinger. He said he would come down to the Embassy Ballrooom about 11:30. At 11:40, Sen. Kennedy said he didn't want to go through the center of the Embassy Ballroom as had been planned. He asked about a rear entrance and was informed he could enter the ballroom from the pantry behind it. No one knows why Kennedy changed his mind and thus the course of history. And no one knows how Sirhan Sirhan knew about the change since the information about entering and leaving had been given only to the security people until a few moments before when it was released to the press.

Down the elevator through the hotel lobby into the pantry, Sen. Kennedy shook hands with just about everyone along the route. No one knew what the campaign insiders knew. Just before coming down to the cheering throng in the ballroom, RFK had talked to Chicago's Mayor Richard Daley who had assured the support of the big Illinois delegation. That was followed by calls from both Pennsylvania and New York with the same pledge. Within a half hour, the senator had been assured of enough support to clinch the presidential nomination. Robert Kennedy was walking to public acclaim with the assurance that he could be the next President.

When he entered the room, sheer pandemonium broke out. It took quite a while to quiet down the cheering. Robert Kennedy, in characteristic style, quipped about his win and thanked his adversaries. He ended by telling all, "We are on our way to Chicago."

Since a private party had been planned at The Factory, a night club owned by Sammy Davis, Peter Lawford, Anthony Newley and Salinger, the senator wanted to get there to launch the victory party. As he left the platform, two of the network's TV cameras followed him. He was shaking hands with one of the waiters when we noticed a man on top of a table with a gun pointed at Kennedy. Before anyone could react, the shots rang out and the senator fell to the ground.

The word spread throughout the hotel within seconds. People screamed, others became ill and fainted. Kennedy's bodyguards had Sirhan Sirhan, the assassin, in tow.

One of them, ex-football star Roosevelt Grier had to be pulled off of the assailant for fear that he would kill him on the spot. Those of us in the press department began to sift through the facts of the tragic event.

The senator was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital where, having never regained consciousness, he died a day later. We flew, within hours, to New York to plan the funeral. All of us were caught up in the events and didn't stop to think of the import of the murder.

I was put in charge of press arrangements at the funeral service to be held in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, press seating on the funeral train to Washington and coverage of the burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

We had a deluge of nearly 600 reporters who wanted to cover every aspect of the funeral. Political VIP's, many of whom were sworn enemies of Robert Kennedy wanted to get a highly-prized invitation. Then Mayor John Lindsay called me to offer whatever I needed from the City of New York. Governor Nelson Rockefeller did the same.

We had about 200 volunteers to answer phones at our Roosevelt Hotel media headquarters. For the first time in recent memory, special scaffolding was built in St. Patrick's Cathedral to hold TV and press cameras. We had a brief crisis when Robert Kennedy's widow, Ethel, insisted on having Andy Williams be the soloist at the funeral Mass. Church officials objected because Williams was not a Roman Catholic. When Mrs. Kennedy threatened to take the funeral service elsewhere, the church officials agreed.

The funeral train which was supposed to take four hours, took more than eight because of slow-downs for people watching at stations and towns along the Northeast corridor. Walter Cronkite did a live report aboard the train by remote connection. And the passenger load was about twice what it should have been. Cabinet officers, senators, ambassadors, governors and the famous from the entertainment world were all aboard. This was a train trip not to be missed. Mrs. Kennedy walked through the entire 12 car train to talk to each person making the trip.

For four days, newspapers in every American city carried little else than reports about Kennedy's assassination. In the wake of the event, President Lyndon Johnson ordered Secret Service protection for all presidential candidates and the Kennedy family—an order which remains in effect today.

As a journalist, certain things that happened in those frantic days remain in my memory. When we left the funeral train, we put all of the press representatives aboard buses to ride immediately behind the hearse carrying the body of the late senator. The reason was that during the campaign, the press bus always followed the senator's car.

On our way to the cemetery, we were stopped at an intersection just before we got to the Arlington Bridge. An Army officer entered the bus and said we would have to follow the President and his entourage of cars. Frank Mankiewicz, the late senator's press secretary, flatly refused and ordered the buses to proceed ahead of the President's car. A cheer went up throughout the press buses and someone shouted "This one's for you Bobby."

At the burial site on a slope adjacent to the one where John F. Kennedy was buried, thousands had gathered. It was a simple ceremony and over within a half hour. It was conducted in candlelight with hundreds holding their own candles as the sun set over Washington. We suddenly realized that this was the end of a remarkable life. The full impact of the tragedy was felt in those closing moments of the graveside funeral service. We had been too busy in the days since the assassination to stop. We had seen others break down but Kennedy's press staff, like the reporters covering the unfolding events carried on our work.

Once the crowd began to leave Arlington Cemetery, we noticed many of the reporters, some of the most famous journalists in America, openly weep. Each year since RFK's death in 1968, reporters who covered Kennedy's last campaign join us in a silent vigil at the Arlington grave site on June 6th. Most admit that their lives have never been the same since those fateful days in early June of 1968. We were all witnesses to terror and will never forget it.

(Sirhan was never on top of a table, but Gruver saw someone fire. The question is not how Sirhan "knew" RFK's route, but who led him from the planned exit.)

DTH 2-17-85

John Hinckley Jr. makes book deal

The Washington Post

John Hinckley Jr. wrote the New York Post in 1982 and pleaded, "Don't turn me into a monster." Reporter George Carpozi had his literary agent urge Hinckley to cooperate on a book.

Now President Reagan's would-be assassin, Carpozi says, has agreed to help in exchange for 25 percent of the profits. Carpozi, deputy news editor of The Star, a supermarket magazine, says the tome will be titled "The Day I Shot the President: The John Hinckley Jr. Story."

Fort Worth Press, Friday, December 13, 1968

Panic at Dallas Left Its Mark on Innocent

By SETH KANTOR
Press Washington Writer

WASHINGTON—In the aftermath of President Kennedy's assassination in Dallas, panic and rumors left a lasting mark on several innocent people.

Here are three instances:

Kantor

Case No. 1—A young man about the same age as the president's accused slayer, Lee Harvey Oswald:

Moments after the three rifle shots, the man was seen moving quickly away from the confusion that was bubbling outside the Texas School Book Depository Bldg.

"There he goes. There goes the man who shot the president," someone shouted, pointing at the wrong man.

Immediately, he was pursued. He was nearing the front of the Dallas County jail, a block from the shooting scene. Answering a radioed call for help from Sheriff Bill Decker, deputy sheriffs were at that moment running from the jail building.

THEY SAW the man who was by now running for his life, being pursued by what was growing into an unbridled mob. A deputy pulled the man into the sheriff's offices.

After questioning him and checking thoroughly on his whereabouts when the president had been shot, they later let the man go free. But it appeared to law officers that if the shooting scene had not been a block from the protection of a jail, a mob could have beaten that innocent man to death.

Case No. 2—The woman looking for a mad bomber

During the week-end following the assassination, one Dallas newspaper (The Dallas Morning News) received several anonymous "bomb" threats.

A woman receptionist on the newspaper's third floor, the editorial floor, saw a suspicious looking man step from the elevator. They seized the "bomber."

HOWEVER, he turned out to be a thoroughly frightened writer for the newspaper industry's weekly magazine, "Editor & Publisher," publish-ed in New York City. He had come to Dallas to gather a report on the "fine job" the city's two newspapers had done under the great pressure.

Case No. 3—The man who disappeared from 223 N. Beckley.

Oswald lived in a rooming house at the Beckley St. address. Soon after Oswald was killed in the Dallas city police station, another roomer in the same house, Donald Ray Green, 26, suddenly moved out.

Widespread rumors had it that Green was a "mysterious, wealthy close friend" of Oswald.

Mrs. A. C. Johnson, landlady of the rooming house, refused to talk to anyone without a police badge about Green, except that "he is gone." She identified him as a medical student by night who held down a fulltime job "somewhere" during the days.

MEDICAL school records were checked in Dallas. So were hospital employe records. There was no Donald Ray Green.

But the search spread and it was found that Green was attending a college at nights, studying for a degree in accounting. His school records showed his place of employment.

His employer reported that Green was at work regularly in a moderately - salaried job. From then on, the checking became easy. Green had left the rooming house and had moved to the home of relatives "because I couldn't study or get any rest with all the police and reporters hanging around."

Instead of being a friend of Oswald, Green never even had held a conversation with Oswald.

"I heard him talk on the telephone sometimes," said Green, another innocent man briefly caught in the web of circumstance. "He talked in some kind of foreign language. He didn't want to be friends here with anybody."

"an #1 witnessed the shooting but wasn't questioned about it, or was he? "an #2 could have led investigators to other roomers.

D'H 2-14-85

■

DATE WITH DESTINY: On this date in 1964, a jury in Dallas found **Jack Ruby** guilty of murdering **Lee Harvey Oswald.**

■

Fort Worth Press, Sunday, December 1, 1963

Even Utility Bills Become Important

Oswald Tracked by 'Red Tape'

By JACK MOSELEY
Press Staff Writer

The very workings of the government Lee Harvey Oswald hated may hold the final piece to a jigsaw puzzle that when completed will reveal every detail of the crime of the century.

A source close to such investigations painted this picture today for THE PRESS:

"Somewhere in Washington behind locked doors, teams of investigators are poring over a small mountain of data—information that almost every American has cursed at one time or another. "It's what you would call governmental red tape," explained the source.

"Under our system, it's almost impossible to exist without giving Uncle Sam your life history, or at least the clues to it." So it was with Lee Harvey Oswald and all who came in contact with him.

What is this information? Where will it point?

Social Security, income tax, military, FBI, CIA, Red Cross, State Dept., immigration, police, intelligence and other records are gathered together in that room.

LETTERS, JOB applications, long distance telephone data, utility bills, charge accounts, medical reports, driver's license and traffic information, hunting and fishing licenses, legal records and a hundred other documents are there.

By now, these have been evaluated. And other reports are flooding in.

No matter how he tried to hide, Oswald left a trail that may ensnare him even after death—and possibly others.

Similar information has been collected on every member of the Oswald family, Jack Ruby and others.

These are the roadsigns for the investigation. Add logical theory, hunches, information from private citizens, and the bits and pieces begin to form a picture. Perhaps the most difficult puzzle is history, many of the pieces appear to fit, then must be discarded.

IS IT important that Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, his mother, worked just four blocks from Ruby's downtown Dallas strip joint in 1957-58 for about six months? And did this become even more significant when Oswald rented a room near Ruby's apartment?

Did Oswald meet a mystery man Nov. 16—just six days before the assassination—and tell his family the person who talked with him in a car in front of an Irving house was an FBI agent? Repeated denials of such a meeting have come from the federal lawmen.

Cuban nationalists in this country have amassed large sums of money for anyone who will assassinate Fidel Castro. Could Oswald's visit with Cuban officials in Mexico have been part of a planned reversal of this campaign against Castro communism?

WHY DID his mother desperately seek to get Oswald a hardship discharge from the Marines just before he went to Russia and renounced his American citizenship?

At that very time, an insurance claim for nearly $3000 was being settled in her behalf.

Records of the Industrial Accident Board at Austin show that Mrs. Oswald was injured while working for a Fort Worth candy company. A jar fell from a shelf and struck her in the face.

She was paid $583 for medical expenses. A lawsuit for more than $10,000 was then filed against Libery Insurance Co. as an outgrowth of this incident.

Yet in the early fall of 1959, Mrs. Oswald had letters written by Fort Worth doctors, which she used to obtain "an acute allotment" and medical treatment as Carswell Hospital.

During the investigation of her accident, Mrs. Oswald refused a psychiatric examination, but was checked by two neuro-surgeons and a number of other doctors.

AND JUST A month and 17 days after news of her son's renouncing American citizenship, she was awarded the settlement of $2875. That settlement was being worked out while she was applying for her son's discharge from the Marines. Why the urgency in seeking his release from the service?

What political affiliations did the Oswald family have during the years in New York City, where Mrs. Oswald said she and her family lived?

Bits and pieces of a puzzle? Perhaps important, perhaps not.

Why was Oswald so dedicated to "clearing his record" and becoming known as a good American again, even as he worked for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee?

HE NOT ONLY wrote the now famous letter to Gov. John Connally, former Secy. of the Navy, asking that his dishonorable discharge for defecting to Russia be made honorable. But he enlisted the help of a State Dept. official, George de Mohrenschildt, in Dallas and others.

De Mohrenschildt, the first American representative to enter Yugoslavia after World War II, contacted a Tarrant County official in early February of this year and asked that he talk to Oswald about his discharge. He identified Oswald as a defector. Later, Russian-born de Mohrenschildt and his wife, native of China, were sent on a Central American assignment for the State Dept. The county official never talked with Oswald about the matter after de Mohrenschildt, a geologist, failed to locate him by telephone.

At that time, Oswald was reportedly working in Fort Worth.

(Oh? George told a Tarrant County official he was with the State Dept? And was the mystery man Maurice Bishop? If only Moseley had run down those leads)

BRIEFS....Thanks to David Wright and Larry Harris for clippings....Computer study of the Moorman photo begins in May - scientists will be using transparencies several generations better than what we had for the blowups in issue 3. At least four areas will be enhanced to get a better look at 8 different images, and if something important is found, NBC will have the best coverage....What was going to be a point by by point review has become an unqualified endorsement of the bimonthly newsjournal The Third Decade. $15 per year and 24 pages - write Jerry Rose, State University College, Fredonia, NY 14063....The Howard Hunt/CIA memo was only a hypothesis that suddenly came to life, according to Paul Hoch's believable source; altho it never existed, the memo was believed real by more than a few researchers and writers - get Paul's newsletter, Echoes of Conspiracy, at 1525 Acton St, Berkeley, CA 94702....ABC's Call To Glory, a canceled weekly series, will now air as a two hour movie, dealing with the JFK assassination, sometime in June.

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